



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

up the question of where the æcidial stage might be found. Learning that Dr. Arthur had made cultures of æcidia on a *Rumex* from the teleutospores of *Phragmites* rust, it occurred to me that *Rumex britannica* which grows abundantly in these marshes must be the host plant. On April 9th I visited one of the patches of *Phragmites* and collected leaves for a culture. In my back yard is a large crown of *Rumex altissimus*, and over this I laid several rusted leaves of the *Phragmites*, putting a stone on one end and allowing the other to flop in the wind. On May 28th I found the Dock leaves heavily infected, some of the lower leaves having white æcidia ready for collection. This suggested a visit to the marsh containing *Rumex britannica*. Here I waded into the marsh and was rewarded by finding æcidia in abundance, but still a little immature. Specimens were collected for distribution.

I next began inspecting my neighbors' gardens and found good æcidia on *Rheum rhaponticum* in four gardens, two near my home, one three-quarters of a mile east, and the other four miles distant westward. I concluded from this that the spores had not come from my experiment, but were generally distributed by the wind.

A week later I collected another set of æcidia from *Rumex britannica* in the marsh, finding the spots lessening in number as the distance from the grass increased, and none at all a few hundred feet away.

On June 9th I found an æcidium in small quantity on *Rumex altissimus* by the creek bank, three blocks south of my home, and one good spot of it on *Rumex crispus*.

We have therefore, in twelve months, found the æcidia on four hosts in the Dock Family, namely; *Rheum rhaponticum*, *Rumex altissimus*, *Rumex britannica*, and *Rumex crispus*. The uredo and teleutospore stages are common on the Reed Grass—*Phragmites phragmites*. As this grass as well as *Rumex britannica* are common through the northern states it is probable that the rust may be found here and there if carefully searched for.

Red Cloud, Nebraska.

POISONING BY *LEPIOTA MORGANI* PK.

F. L. STEVENS.

The genus *Lepiota* according to Engler and Prantl, following Saccardo, contains some 270 species, about thirty of which are native to America, 18 being found in New York alone. It belongs to the white spored series of the *Agaricaceae* and is distinguished from the other members of this series by the absence of a volva, presence of an annulus, which is often moveable, and

by its free lamellæ. The fleshy pileus is usually scaly in this genus. The stalk is firm.

While this genus, in classification, falls somewhat near the deadly *Amanitas*, its members are usually considered wholesome, and several of them certainly are so.

The one species in question, *Lepiota Morgani* Pk., is a large attractive form which with its abundance of clean, firm flesh is especially tempting. This species may be distinguished by its greenish spores. By some it is regarded as edible, while by others it is viewed with suspicion.

The personal experience of the writer with this fungus, with an accurate account of symptoms written from notes made on the day of the experiment may be worthy of record in view of the somewhat indefinite position that the species occupies in the minds of mycophagists.

About three cubic centimeters of the pileus in fresh condition were eaten raw on August 21st at 12:45 P. M. The taste was mild and pleasant with no specially marked characteristics. At one o'clock I ate a full dinner, consisting of no unusual foods, and after dinner worked a bit in the hot sun from 1:30 to 2:30. In the meantime symptoms of slight dizziness gradually developed. The dizziness was so slight that it is perhaps proper to call it a lack of clearness, haziness or fogginess of the brain rather than real dizziness. This, at the time, was attributed to the intense heat of the afternoon. From 2:45 to 3 o'clock very slight gastric uneasiness, not nausea, merely disquiet, accompanied by slight tension of the muscles of the jaw, throat, and mouth was noticeable. At three o'clock, occurred, without an instant's warning sudden violent vomiting. This was painless and without nausea. The stomach's content was sour. This attack was immediately preceded by a few moments marked by cold sweat. The attack was repeated at 3:30, at 4 and at 4:40. Frequent sneezing, occasional slight chills and the foggy head occurred throughout this time. The symptoms were decidedly aggravated just prior to each attack of vomiting. The strength remained practically normal.

The writer travelled from Raleigh to Goldsboro in the interval between 3:30 and 6 P. M., drinking copious supplies of water as a stomach wash after 4 P. M. About 4:30 diarrhœa began. There was full control of the rectal muscles but the discharge was extremely watery. The last vomiting occurred at 4:40. The diarrhœa continued until six or eight o'clock. Slight pain in the region of the stomach and intestine was felt from 4:30 to 5:40. Mucus was abundant in the throat, coming probably from the stomach. After five o'clock there was rapid recovery to the normal. I ate a moderately large supper at 8 P. M., slept well and awoke in normal health next morning. All of the symptoms excepting the severe vomiting and diarrhœa

were mild. Health prior to the dinner was perfectly normal. The dinner was a usual one, partaken of by several other people, none of whom had any such symptoms.

There is no doubt of the identity of the species of which I had an abundant quantity for examination. One specimen with field notes was submitted to Mr. F. S. Earle, who also kindly determined the species for me. He says, "The plant seems to be a small form of *Lepiota Morgani* Pk."

The violence of the attack, its absolute coincidence with the ingestion of the fungus, its subsidence with the final rejection of the fungus, the subsequent and antecedent history of the subject, and the peculiar characteristic symptoms of intoxication, both in the digestive and nervous systems, all indicate clearly the poisonous nature of this species.

The specimens eaten were in perfectly fresh normal condition, picked in grass under trees. The extreme violence of the symptoms produced by such a small quantity of the fungus, makes one wonder what a meal from such might do.

While some claim to have eaten this species with impunity, and are inclined to regard the pain as resting with an idiosyncrasy of the subject, it is evident that one should determine his own personal resistance with considerable caution.

NEW SPECIES OF FUNGI.

J. B. ELLIS AND B. M. EVERHART.

The first two species given in the list were collected in California by Copeland and sent by C. F. Baker. The remainder were collected in the vicinity of London, Canada, by Professor J. Dearnness.

RAMULARIA GLAUCA E. & E.—On leaves of *Sambucus glauca*, near Stanford University, California, Aug. 1903, (leg. Copeland Comm. C. F. Baker, 3738).

Spots amphigenous, dark-brown, $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 cm. diam. with a slightly raised border, orbicular or irregular outline. Hyphæ obsolete, the conidia arising directly from a tubercular base and forming a tuft about $75\ \mu$ diam. The conidia are hyaline, mostly continuous, oblong-fusoid, subcatenulate, $15\text{-}30 \times 3\text{-}4\ \mu$, about the same as those of *R. sambucina* Sacc. which differs in its small white spots.

SEPTORIA CHRYSAMPHORÆ E. & E.—On *Chrysamphora californica*, Mt. Eddy, California, Sept. 1903, (leg. Copeland, Comm. C. F. Baker, 3749).

Spots at first small (1-2 mm.), of a pale golden color, with a purplish areolate border, finally larger (1 cm.) and the purplish areola less distinct and narrower. Perithecia scattered on the